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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/265,489	03/09/1999	SASHIKANTH CHANDRASEKARAN	237/116	4574

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EXAMINER
TO, BAOQUOC N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2162	

DATE MAILED: 06/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/265,489	CHANDRASEKARAN ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Baoquoc N. To	2162	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *20 March 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-13 and 16-51* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-13 and 16-51* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on

03/20/2006 has been entered.

Claims 1-14 and 16-51 are pending in this application.

Response to Amendment

2.   The DECLARATION OF SASHIKANTH CHANDRASEKARAN AND ASHOK

SAXENA filed on 03/20/2006 under 37 CFR 1.131 has been considered but is

ineffective to overcome the Anderson.

1. The declaration is just the general allegations e.g. in paragraphs 3-6 in the

Declaration and the exhibits only demonstrate the history management table and the

updating of the history table which indicates the records accessed by consumers.

There is specific mapping between the specific concepts to the claims and the exhibits.

The history table in both the Declaration and exhibits is not **a table** which has a

consumer identification field comprising an identification of one of said more consumer,

and a message state field for indicting whether one of one or more information queue

records has been access by one or more consumers. The table in claims 13-14 and 16-

20 is not the history table as being address in the Declaration in paragraph 3-6 or in the

Exhibits. In addition, paragraph 3-6 and exhibits do not mention nor support the work

list table in claims 21-22, 9-12, 18-20 and 51. Lastly, paragraphs 3-6 and exhibits do

not clearly shows locations in the history table which indicates where the information

accessed by first and second consumer. Since "the history management process that

are implemented in a software program that was created and reduced to practice prior

to January 15, 1999" in the paragraph 4 of the Declaration; therefore, applicant should

have facts to support this claims.

Therefore, The DECLARATION OF SASHIKANTH CHANDRASEKARAN AND

ASHOK SAXENA filed on 03/20/2006 under 37 CFR 1.131 has been considered but is

ineffective to overcome the Anderson reference with following reason.

The affidavit or declaration and exhibits must clearly explain which facts or data

application is relying on to show completion of his or her invention prior to the particular

date. The applicant also must give a clear explanation of the exhibits pointing out

exactly what facts are established and relied on by application. The statement which

recited in paragraph 3-6 are general allegation that the invention was complete prior to

the date of the reference without a statement of facts demonstrating the correctness of

this conclusion, is insufficient to satisfy 37 CFR 1.131.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3.   Claims 1-14 and 16-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Anderson (US. Patent No. 6,442,600 B1) in view of Smith et al.

(6,282,564 B1).

Regarding on claims 1 and 54, Anderson teaches a method for managing

information to be accessed by multiple consumers, said information comprising one or

more information records, said information records to be accessed by said multiple

consumers in a specified order, each said information record comprising data to be

accessed by a consumer, said method comprising:

Providing said data of an information record to a consumer (the message

distribututium server (MDS) system receives electronic messages to be distributed to

one or more recipients) (col. 3, lines 34-36).

Updating a history table, said history table comprising a history record for each

consumer for said information record, said history record comprising a message stage

field for indicating whether said data of said information record have been provided to

said consumer (the MDS system then tracks and manages requests form the recipient

to access the message by permitting access when appropriate, performing activities

such as decrypting/decrypting the message if necessary, recording information about

the access and about recipient instruction related to the message, archiving the

message if necessary, and adding the message when it is no longer needed) (col. 3,

lines 40-47).

Anderson also discloses "messenger tracker component will also monitor the

messages to determine when it is no longer necessary to store a message. For

example, if all recipients have reviewed the message and none have instructed that the

message be saved (or in an embodiment where the default is to save the message and

all recipients have indicated to delete the message), the message tracker can delete the

stored message" (col. 7, lines 17-24). However, Anderson does not explicitly teach

updating comprising setting said message state field in a history record corresponding

to said consumer to indicate said consumer accessed said data. On the other hand,

Smith discloses updating comprising setting said message state field in a history record

corresponding to said consumer to indicate said consumer accessed said data (col. 10,

lines 12-15). This suggests the status indicator indicates the record has been read.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to modify Anderson's system to update the message stage field to

indicate the viewer have been read the message as taught by Smith in order to allow

the automatic message deletion upon all user read the message.

Regarding on claim 2, Smith teaches each said information record further

comprises a message identifier value that identifies the data of said information record
and each said history record further comprises a message id field that identifies data in
an information record (col. 10, lines 1-18).

Regarding on claim 3, Anderson teaches history record further comprises a
consumer id field that identifies a consumer of said multiple consumers that is to access
data in an information record, said data identified by said message id field, said
consumer id field of said history record identifying said history record as corresponding
to said consumer (col. 3, lines 35-46).

Regarding on claim 4, Smith teaches updating comprising setting said message
state field in the history record with a message id field the identifies said data that said
consumer is provided access to and with a consumer id field that identifies said
consumer (col. 10, lines 12-18).

Regarding on claims 5 and 47, Anderson teaches in which prefix index key
compression is used to store only on instance of a message identifier value that
identifies the data of an information record in said history table for each history record
for said information record (col. 3, lines 3-47).

Regarding on claim 6, Smith teaches storing data to be accessed by a
consumer in an information record creating a history record for each consumer that is
access said data, and setting said message state field in each said history record to
indicate said data has not been accessed (col. 10, lines 12-17).

Regarding on claim 7, Anderson teaches a read-order table comprising order
data that indicates the relative order that data in said information record is to be

accessed by said multiple consumers, said method further comprising identifying the

data of in information record that a consumer is to be provided access to by said order

data in said read-order table (col. 3,lines 30-47).

Regarding on claim 8, Anderson teaches reading one or more history records of

said history table, said one or more history records comprising a history table read; and

deleting an information record if all the message state fields in all of the history records

of said history table read indicate that said data in said information record has been

accessed (col. 3,lines 30-47).

Regarding on claim 9, Anderson teaches a work list table, said work

list table comprising one or more work entries, each work entry comprising an

identification of data in an information record (col. 6, lines 30-45).

Regarding on claim 10, Anderson teaches adding a work entry to said work list

table, said work entry comprising an identification (col. 6, lines 30-45).

Regarding on claim 11, Anderson teaches accessing a work entry in said work

list table (col. 6, lines 30-45);

reading one or more history records of said history table, said one or more

history records comprising a history table read, said one or more history records

comprising said history table read determined by said work entry (col. 6, lines 30-45)

and

deleting an information record if all the message state fields in all of the history

records (message queue) of said history table indicate that said data in said information

record has been accessed (col. 4, lines 25-44).

Regarding on claim 12, Anderson teaches batting two or more work entries in said work table list table (col. 6,lines 45-60); and

performing in a single transaction reading one or more history records of said history table, said one or more history records determined by said two or more work entries, and deleting one or more information records (col. 4, lines 25-44).

Claim 13 is rejected under the same reason as claim 1, in addition, Smith also discloses an information queue comprising one or more information queue records each said information queue record comprising information to be accessed by one or more consumers (col. 9, lines 9-11)

Regarding on claim 14, Smith teaches each said information queue record further comprises said identification of said information of said information queue record (col. 9, lines 9-11).

Regarding on claim 15, Smith teaches each said table record further comprises a message state field that indicates if the information in said information queue identified in the corresponding information identification field of said table record has been delivered to the consumer identified in the consumer identification field of said table record (col. 10, lines 12-18).

Regarding on claim 16, Smith teaches a read-order table record further comprises state field that indicates if the information in said information queue identified in the corresponding information identification field of said table record has been delivered to the consumer identified in the consumer identification field of said table record (col. 10, lines 12-18).

Regarding on claim 17, Anderson teaches read-order table comprises one or more records, each said record of said read-order table comprising in identification field identifies information in an information queue record, each said record of said read-order table further comprising an enqueue time field comprises said order data (col. 6, lines 20-20).

Regarding on claim 18, Anderson teaches a work list table, said work list table comprising one or more work list entries, each said work list entry comprising an identification of information in an information queue record (col. 3, lines 35-40);

Regarding on claim 19, Anderson teaches work list entry is a record (col. 3, lines 35-40);

Regarding on claim 20, Anderson teaches work list table comprises one or more work records and each said work list entry is a field in a work record (col. 3, lines 35-40).

Claim 21 is rejected under the same reason as claim 13, in addition, Anderson a work list table separated from said message queue and said history table comprising one or more work list entries, each said work list entry comprising a message identification (col. 5, lines 20-39).

Regarding on claim 22, Anderson teaches a read-order table comprising one or more read-order records, each said read-order-record comprising a message identification and order data, said order data indicating the relative order that the message of said message queue that is identified by the message identification of said read-order record is to be delivered to a consumer (col. 5, lines 20-39).

Regarding on claims 23, 31 and 38, Anderson teaches a method for multiple

consumers to access information in a non first-in first out, prescribed order, said

information comprising one or more piece of information, a first piece of information

stored in a first location, said method comprising:

providing access to said first piece of information to a first consumer of said

multiple consumers (electronic message to be distributed to one or more recipients)

(col. 3, lines 35-37). Anderson doest not explicitly teach indicating in a second location

in a history table that said first consumer has accessed said first piece of information,

said history table having first message state field for indicating whether said first

consumer has accessed said first piece of information; providing access to said first

piece of information to a second consumer of said multiple consumers; and indicating in

a third location in said history table that said second consumer has accessed said first

piece of information, said history table having a second message state field for

indicating whether said second consumer has accessed said first piece of information.

However, Smith discloses indicating in a second location in a history table that said first

consumer has accessed said first piece of information, said history table having first

message state field for indicating whether said first consumer has accessed said first

piece of information; providing access to said first piece of information to a second

consumer of said multiple consumers; and indicating in a third location in said history

table that said second consumer has accessed said first piece of information, said

history table having a second message state field for indicating whether said second

consumer has accessed said first piece of information (col. 6, lines 30-34 and col. 10,

lines 12-15 and col. 10, lines 12-15). This suggests the status indicator is the location

in the table to indicate the records being accessed by the second user. Therefore, it

would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was

made to modify Anderson's system to update the message stage field to indicate the

viewer have been read the message as taught by Smith in order to allow the automatic

message deletion upon all user read the message.

Regarding on claims 24, 32 and 39, Smith teaches first location comprises an

information entry in a queue of information (col. 5, lines 9-10).

Regarding on claims 25, 33 and 40, Smith teaches queue information comprises

one or more information entries, and each said information entry comprises a piece of

information to be accessed by one or more of said multiple consumers, each said

information entry further comprising an identification of said piece of information of said

piece of information in said information entry (col. 5, lines 9-10).

Regarding on claims 26, 34 and 41, Anderson teaches deleting said entry

comprising said first piece of information that said first consumer and said second

consumer is provided access to from said queue of information after said first consumer

after said first consumer and said second have accessed said first piece of information

(col. 7, lines 17-25).

Regarding on claims 28, 35 and 42, Anderson teaches second location comprises a history entry, said history entry comprising an identification of said first piece of information and an identification of said first consumer (col. 6, lines 30-35).

Regarding on claims 29, 36 and 43, Anderson teaches third location comprises another history entry in said history table, said other history entry comprising an identification of said first piece of information and in identification of said second consumer (col. 6, lines 30-35).

Regarding on claims 30, 37 and 44, Anderson teaches indicating in a fourth location an order in which said one or more pieces of information is to be accessed by said multiple consumers (col. 6, lines 30-35).

Contact Information

4.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Baoquoc N. To whose telephone number is at 571-272-4041 or via e-mail BaoquocN.To@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached at 571-272-4107.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-

3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned are as follow:

(571) –273-8300   [Official Communication]

BQ To

May 25th, 2006
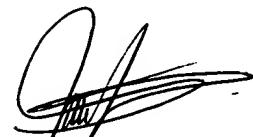
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